

**W. HAZLEMAN,**  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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**SWINE—MAKING PORK.**

In a very large part of the United States, next to the cultivation of grain, the profits of the farmer are more dependent on his pork than any other single item; and within a few years past the sales of that article, it is believed, have equalled in amount that of any other farm product, wheat excepted. It is becoming, therefore, an object of interest to the country, that the best breeds of swine should be selected and disseminated, and the most improved methods of fattening be adopted, as the saving of a single dollar on each porker in rearing or fattening, and experience proves it possible to save many, would be the saving of millions annually. To these two points, the best breeds and the best mode of fattening, the attention of farmers should be directed.

Fortunately, so far as regards the best breeds of swine, the farmer in the United States has the means of procuring those animals that the common voice of farmers in this country and abroad, have pronounced the best for making pork, and which unite the desired qualities of size, ease of fattening, and fineness of quality. These are the Chinese and the Berkshire; but though the first are superior to all others for quietness, fineness of flesh, and rapidity of fattening, they are alone, too small for profitable feeding, and it has been found advisable to cross them with some of the most approved common or imported varieties, in order to give the requisite weight. At the head of these varieties, whether for crossing or for feeding, stand the Berkshire, a breed, which, if it is of comparatively recent introduction, has, by its valuable qualities, proved itself worthy of a more rapid dissemination than any other breed has ever received in this country. That the Berkshire pig is in equal favor abroad where he is best known, is evident from the following extract which we make from that standard work, British Husbandry, and which will also exhibit the principal characteristics of the animal.

"The Berkshire hog is of a reddish brown color with black spots the head well placed, with large ears, generally standing forward, though sometimes drooping over the eyes. He is short legged, small boned, and of a rough curly coat, wearing the appearance of both skin and flesh being of a coarse quality. Nothing, however, can be finer than the bacon, (or pork) and the animals attain to a very large size, having not uncommonly reached the weight of more than 100 stone; but from 40 to 50, when completely fattened, is the general average. The breed has, indeed, obtained such general approbation from the best judges, that those who wish to improve their stock of swine are very generally desirous of obtaining a cross with that race; and they are consequently dispersed over the most distant parts of the country. Some of the best of these crosses are found in Staffordshire from the progeny of an animal well known to pig breeders as the 'Tamworth Boar.' The native breed is also usually crossed at intervals, either with the pure Chinese or the 'Tonquin race,' and this process is found necessary to prevent deterioration."

"To the Berkshire, or to the China crosses, the farmer may therefore look with confidence for the best breeds of swine now in existence; and he who persists in feeding the old fashioned animals, when better are within his reach, must find a wide difference between his profits and those of his neighbor, who avails himself of the best animals the country can produce. Hogs weighing eight or ten cwt. have occasionally been produced in this country; and the average weight of our best fattened hogs is much below 400 pounds.

The profits of making pork will depend much on the breed of the animal fed; much on the food used for fattening; and much on the manner in which the process of feeding is conducted. There can be no doubt that some farmers have such inferior pigs, and feed in such a careless and wasteful manner, that they actually lose instead of gaining by a tempting to make pork. Almost any hog, and in almost any condition or place, will improve, and give him enough to eat, but to profitably fatten, not only must the food be of the right kind and given in a proper manner; but every necessary attention should be paid to the comfort, cleanliness and health of the animal. The time requisite for fattening is of course dependent on circumstances, such as the condition of the pig when put up, the food used, age &c. From eight to twelve weeks may be said to be the shortest time in which hogs can be properly fattened with good care; and under ordinary modes of feeding they may require a still longer term to be

made of good quality; that is, to have the pork firm and the animal well filled with lard. Hogs, when put up for fattening, if well, increase the fastest in weight, and also consume the most food, during the first weeks of their feeding. The rapidity of fattening, and the food eaten, both gradually decrease, but the first lessens most quickly, and after the hog has reached a certain point, his gain will not pay for his feed. When the animal approaches this point, he should be killed. A pig put up to be fattened and regularly weighed, gave the following results, which are conclusive on this point, and they agree in the main with the experience of every farmer.

Oct. 10.	Weight of pig.	36 st. 7 lbs.
Oct. 21.	"	" 41 " 5 " gain 38 lbs.
Nov. 7.	"	" 46 " 7 " " 34 "
Nov. 21.	"	" 47 " 9 " " 11 "
Dec. 5.	"	" 48 " 7 " " 13 "
Dec. 22.	"	" 48 " 6 " " 1 "

To insure economy in the making of pork, it is indispensable that a suitable piggery be provided. The particular manner in which this building is constructed is of comparatively little consequence, if it unites the essential requisites of such an important part of the farm buildings. It should be convenient; that is, it should be so arranged that the labor of feeding the swine may be diminished as much as possible. At the present time a large portion of the food of hogs is cooked, and the apparatus for cooking and the place of feeding should be near each other. In some of the best arranged piggeries, the furnaces, steamers, kettles, pumps, &c. are under the same roof with the piggery, and the labor of feeding ten or twenty porkers for eight or ten weeks is materially diminished from what it would be where the cooking is performed in the open air, and at a distance from the pen. The pen for the animals should be so arranged that it can be readily cleaned and kept dry, and in cold weather a bed of straw or litter should be furnished, as no hog can fat well unless he is kept warm and comfortable. Too great a degree of warmth, or too great a degree of cold, seem alike unfavorable to making pork; hence the fall and the spring months are better for this purpose than the summer or winter ones; though in a cool shaded situation, and on a bare floor, hogs will take on fat as rapidly during the warm months as at any other time. The troughs for feeding must be secured by stanchions, or by pins crossing the upper surface in such a way that all the pigs may obtain their share, and not allow a cross domineering porker to place himself lengthwise in the trough, or run his nose at will from end to end, to the utter discomfiture of the more peaceably inclined. A lid to the trough should be prepared and hung in such a way that the pigs can be shut from the trough, until the food is put in and properly distributed; a thing easily done, and which will prevent a vast deal of squealing and fighting. A farmer should know that it does not sound well, or bespeak good management, to have his pigs make such a clamor every time he is about to feed them, as to make all the neighborhood acquainted with the important fact. The size of the piggery will of course depend on the number of animals it is intended to fatten; as a general rule about two feet of trough should be allowed to each animal, though a much less space may be made to suffice; especially, if the precaution of dividing the trough into sections has been adopted. Where it is intended to feed a large number, the space or building for the fixtures, (steamers, kettles, &c.) may be made the centre, and the styes arranged around it, so as to make the management of the whole easy. The slovenly manner in which some persons keep their swine, and the disgusting state of their piggeries, especially since the practice of feeding the animals on steamed food has become common, is truly disgraceful, and forms a serious drawback on the profits of feeding, as it is clear that a hog so treated will not take on fat, or be as healthy, as one kept as a swine should be.

According to an article in the British Husbandry, a system has been adopted by some of those most extensively engaged in the pork business which appears to be a great improvement on the old method. The styes are built in divisions, each to contain a pig, and to fit him as near as may be. At one end of this bell is the trough, at the other a sliding door that shuts in the pig. No litter of any kind is permitted, as the stalls are on an inclined plane, and cleaned out every day. Holes are bored in the floor to allow all moistsure to escape. Some have carried the system so far as not to allow the width of the stall to be sufficient for the hog to turn in, but whether standing or lying, he always remains with his head to the trough. The advantages of this mode are supposed to be, that the hog keeps more quiet; has a clean dry sty, is sure of a sufficient supply of food without fighting for it; and as a necessary consequence fattens much faster. Suppositions which have been justified by the result of many experiments.

As to the kind of food best adapted to making pork there can be but one opinion where Indian corn is grown. Fed to the swine in the ear, ground or cooked, it is like superior to all other kinds of food for making pork of the best quality. Various experiments have been made in preparing corn for food. By grinding the cob with the corn a great saving was effected in the quantity of grain used, though the fat did not seem to be taken on quite so rapidly as when fed on pure meal. Cooking the corn, or making it into pudding is probably the

best way in which it can be fed, as it is certainly the most economical; giving the bulk necessary for the proper distention of the stomach, with a better development of the nutritive matter than can be obtained in any other way. Making the meal into a mash, with milk or whey, is also a good method of preparing it.—In this case it is the better if soured before feeding.

Where corn cannot be grown, the most valuable kinds of food are peas and barley. In England where corn is unknown, the process of fattening is usually conducted as follows. "In order to harden the flesh, and render it of that mellow firmness so essential to fine pork or bacon, some people commence with about two thirds of steamed potatoes, and one third of peas and barley ground in equal proportions into meal, enlarging the quantity of meal as the animal grows fat, by which means it is said that a quick feeder will in twelve weeks consume from 14 to 16 bushels of the grain, and will probably double his weight. One bushel of peas to four of oats, or four of barley, or three or four bushels of potatoes, with two bushels of ground oats and barley boiled, are also considered good mixtures; but nothing in this country is equal to barley meal and white peas—the peas being given whole, and the meal made into a mash with skimmed milk." (See Brit Husbandry) In this country some good farmers consider a mixture of oats in the proportion of one bushel of oats to three or four of corn, so essential, that we have heard them assert that rather than not have the oats for the mixture, they would exchange corn for that grain, bushel for bushel.

For several years past a large proportion of the pork in the northern states, has been mostly made from apples or potatoes, or from a mixture of these, with meal added for a few of the last weeks of feeding to give the requisite firmness. On apples or potatoes, particularly if steamed, as they always should be, pigs thrive very rapidly, and will in time acquire a very good consistence of flesh as well as weight; but they must be fed for a longer period than when meal is used. Barley has also been extensively cultivated for making pork, as a substitute for corn and peas, and grown for the same purpose by many farmers. Some of the heaviest, finest lots of pork we have ever seen, were made from peas simply prepared by swelling them in tubs with water, and feeding them with milk. As a general rule it may be stated that all food for animals, ~~should be well prepared~~

In order to thrive rapidly, and take on fat as a hog should, to render making pork profitable, the nutritive matter should be presented in a way that will require little or no expenditure of animal or vital power for its appropriation.—The following statement will exhibit at a glance the advantages of so preparing food. "Mr. Walker of Ferrygate, on the 4th of March put up two lots containing five pigs each of the same brood, and two and a half months old. They were separately fed, the one on steamed and the other on raw potatoes, with an allowance of ~~one bushel of barley to each lot~~ being prepared along with the potatoes. The five weight of the two lots were—

That on raw food,	108
That on steamed food,	106

and the following table exhibits their several improvement:

Mar. 19,	pigs on steamed food,	114 lbs,	difference in favor of steamed food 3 lbs.
" "	" "	111	" "
Mar. 30	" "	137 lbs,	do. 13 1/2
May 1,	weight on steamed food,	205	do. 30
" "	" " "	175	" "
June 1,	weight on steamed food,	273	do. 56
" "	" " "	229	" "

Thus in three months the pigs on steamed food had increased 173 lbs.—being 67 1/2 more than double their original weight while those on raw food only gained 115 pounds." In another instance, two lots were fed on steamed, and on raw potatoes, and in ten weeks the lot fed on steamed food gained 38 stone 6 lbs. and the lot on raw potatoes, 17 stone 11 lbs. making a difference in favor of the steamed food of 380 pounds.

Our experience is also decidedly in favor of steaming or cooking food for swine; but it should not be forgotten, that in order to make profitable pork for cooking, it is indispensable that pigs be on apples or potatoes should have meal mixed with their food; the quantity to be increased as the feeding approaches its close.—With this precaution the general introduction of the plan of fattening swine on steamed apples, or apples and potatoes, or either alone, is one of the greatest improvements of modern farming, adding materially to the profits of the cultivator of the soil, and furnishing a first rate article for the market. Gen Farmer.

**From the Journal of Commerce.**

**PROFITS OF SCIENCE FOR FARMERS.**  
 The more any man thinks of the agricultural interest, the more thoroughly he must be convinced of the importance of it to this country collectively, as well as to vast multitudes of its citizens as by one. Of course we must take into consideration the improvement of the science, art, or profession, as it may be called. At present, it is comparatively in a crude condition throughout the country, though much more advanced in some sections than in others. In New England they are generally ahead of the rest of us; at least in many things: a result brought about partly by the sterner necessities of soil and climate, and partly by the greater age of their settlement and

civilization. They have found out that not a living merely is to be made by it, but "money"—money, fortunes; and this is a secret which we wish to circulate in other regions, where at present the richness of the soil, the general climate, speculation, transient circumstances, and good luck, are more relied on than skill, and where agriculture is made in fact a mere shift rather than a science, or even a business. Let us illustrate our meaning by a few fresh specimens of Yankeeism. Take *peat land* to begin with. In some sections of this country there is a vast deal of it entirely waste. Not so in Massachusetts—not so in Middlesex county at least. Dr. Jackson, in his third Geological Report on Maine, gives us a letter from Mr. Phinney, of Lewington, Massachusetts, who says that he considers peat grounds by far the most valuable part of his farm—more valuable than his woodland for fuel, and more than double the value of an equal number of acres of his uplands for the purposes of cultivation.

Some years since, it appears, he occasionally sold to his neighbors a few rods of his peat land yearly to be cut out for fuel, at three dollars per rod, being at the rate of four hundred and eighty dollars per acre; but finding the sum to be less in its value for cultivation, especially when laid to grass, he has declined making further sales at that price. He has raised on his reclaimed meadows, he adds, seventy-five bushels of corn, five hundred bushels of potatoes, or from four to five tons of the best hay, at a first and second cutting, to the acre, at a less expense of labor and manure than would be required to produce half this crop upon the uplands. He subjoins an account of the process by which these results are obtained, but our purpose is effected by calling attention to the subject, and for the details we must refer to the report above cited, or to the New England Farmer of September 11th. But we must not omit to mention that tillage is but one use of peat lands.—Mr. P. says: "I have for twenty years past resorted to my peat meadows for fuel.—These, with the prunings of my fruit trees, and the brush from my uncleared lands, have given me my whole supply." This, in some sections, is a great consideration. There is something very pleasant, too, in a peat light. The smoke does not injure the eye, and it is in every way more healthy than coal. One hint more:

"I have annually, for some years past, used on my farm some hundred loads of peat mud, which is a mixture of peat, horse stye or mixed with fresh stable dung or lime. When mixed with green stable manure, the proportions are two parts of peat mud to one of dung; and I am confident, from repeated experiments, that a load of this compost well mixed and fermented will give as great a produce, and a more permanent improvement to the soil than the same quantity of stable manure."

This Mr. Phinney appears to understand himself all round. He is the gentleman of whom it was lately stated that he cleared three thousand dollars by his hogs. This, he says, is an exaggeration, but he confesses to a part of it. He keeps about five hundred, besides pigs.

Again, we have an account of the farm of Col. Moore, of Concord, same county.—Much of his land, a few years since, was thought worthless, and, by the mass of farmers themselves, low, soggy, meadow, land covered with dog-wood and skunk-cabbage. Nothing daunted, however, the Colonel went to ditching and draining, and so on, and the result is, that he has at this moment thirty acres of reclaimed meadow, which, for grass or any other crop, he is not afraid to compare with any thirty acres in the county of Middlesex that might be selected from one or a dozen farms.

He cut last year from eighty-four rods of this meadow, by actual weight, of well-made hay, 3,805 pounds, and is confident that he has taken this year at the rate of four tons per acre. He has also raised at the rate of ninety bushels of corn to the acre. We have never seen, says our informant, a more promising field of ruta bagas, or finer oats than were growing at the present time on his place.

Take another illustration. A late New England Farmer gives an account of a Mr. Penniman's place at Dedham, near Boston. It contains about one hundred acres. Mr. P. is a Bostonian, and has taken it recently. The first thing he did was to make a geological survey of his premises, and he was rewarded by the discovery of two valuable mines, viz. One of fine granite where stones of almost any description may be got out for underpinning, door-steps, &c. very valuable in Dedham, as there is a deficiency of good granite for building.—Secondly, a valuable mine of meadow manure of which there is an inexhaustible supply. It is remarked that, although this farm has been cultivated probably from the first settlement of the town, this treasure has remained undisturbed. The case reminds us of a similar one, not far from the same locality, and which fell within our own knowledge. A young man, self-educated, but well educated, came up from Maine, with cash in his pocket, to buy "a place." He wanted one near Boston, and found one to suit him. The owner showed him over it, and, among other things, extolled a little spot of green stone which in one place peeped out of ground; he thought \$50 worth might be got out there as likely as not.—Our young man saw for himself, and said nothing. He bought the place very low, the owner having in fact no idea of its value; and at present is receiving from his quarries alone a revenue sufficient to sup-

port him, while the price of the farm is at least double what it was in the market. And this again leads us to a good story, somewhere told by Mrs. Child, of a farmer, not fifty miles from Boston, famous for the improvement he has made in the wild grape. He found a vine in the woods, which dozens of his neighbors passed every week as well as he; but he observed that where the oxen fed upon the vine the grapes were largest and sweetest. He took the hint. The vine was transplanted, and closely pruned. This produced the same effect as browsing had done; the nourishment that, in a wild state, supported a great weight of vines and tendrils, went entirely to the body of the grape. His neighbors would have known this as well as he, Mrs. C. remarks, if they had thought about it; but they did not observe. This attention it is—this intelligence—this being wide awake to business, whatever it is—which makes the great difference, after all between one man's success and another's. It is lately remarked, that the observations made in regard to the grain-worm, or weevil, have led many farmers to sow their wheat late; by so doing they have saved their crops. It has been observed that the insect came out at a number of days. Hence, by sowing the wheat later, so that it should not be headed out, it was expected it would escape the ravages of the insect in question. And so it proved.

A farmer who will probably have 500 bushels of good wheat, is mentioned as having stated that if he had sowed it ten days earlier, as he intended to, he should have lost the whole.

**ROHAN POTATOES.**

John S. Skinner, Esq.—Dear Sir; I procured from Mr. G. B. Smith last spring a peck of Rohan potatoes, and planted them on the 25th of March in hills, 2 feet apart. The plot of ground on which they were planted was a deep fat clay mould, which I manured liberally, broadcast, then spaded it up full depth of the spade, and thoroughly pulverized it with a fine garden rake. Besides the broadcast manuring which the ground received, I manured the potatoes in the hill just as much as if there had been no manure previously spaded in. As the vines grew, the hills were hoed up; received during the season four workings, and were thus kept clean, and the earth well stirred. From the high reputation which the papers had given this new variety of the potato family, I had formed very high expectations of their yield, which candor induces me to say have not been realized; for I had read the letter from Prince Charles de Rohan, in 1835, in which he stated that tubers had been raised weighing 9 lb. 11 oz. and 13 lb. 7 oz. and as the past season has been one peculiarly adapted to the growth of potatoes, I of course calculated upon seeing some few mammoths among my little crop, in which I was disappointed. I dug them on the 2d inst. and although nearly all were of a good size, none of them made least approximation to the enormous size spoken of by Prince de Rohan; for the largest weighed but 13 1/4 lb. They grew upon a plot of ground 23 by 24 feet equal to 572 square feet; which yielded 7 1/4 bushels. This is equal to 572 bushels to the acre. My neighbor's field had formed of their productiveness from the high sounding praise I had read of them. I believe, however, that if, instead of planting two and three eyes in a hill, I had planted but one; that if I had made the hills 3 feet apart, instead of 2 feet, the product would have been much greater; perhaps as much again. I arrive at these conclusions from the belief that, from the luxuriant growth of the vines, which were from 6 to 9 feet long, this variety of the potato requires more room than mine had, and should have had more sun and air than fell to their lot.

Yours, respectfully, EDW. P. ROBERTS.  
 October 4th, 1835.

J. S. Skinner, Esq.—Sir: I procured one-sixth of a bushel of the celebrated Rohan Potatoes in May last. I planted them in the latter end of the same month in a small part of a lot of ground where there had been a regular succession of potato crops raised for a number of years, consequently being unfavorable for the present crop. I however preferred planting them in it, because they were more secure from any deceptions that might otherwise have been committed on them in a more exposed situation; the result has, however, been beyond expectation. I raised from the above seed 13 1/2 bushels full measure of the finest potatoes—indeed, taking them altogether, they are the largest sized potatoes I ever saw, being a production of 81 bushels to the single bushel of seed, and at the rate of 600 bushels per acre. Yours, respectfully, F. H., Marietta, Pa.

Rohan Potatoes.—Respected friend J. R. Chandler:—On the 23d of 4th month (April) last, I received a single Rohan potato, of a medium size, of which I made eighteen cuttings and planted them eighteen inches asunder, in good ground well manured. This week the produce was taken up in the presence of two of my neighbors, who felt some curiosity respecting the result. The potatoes measured one bushel and a half, and weighed eighty pounds. One of them weighed two pounds.

Respectfully thy friend SAMUEL MASON, Branchton, Philadelphia Co.

Rohan Potatoes.—Doctor Fuller, of Connecticut Retreat, has gathered from one "true Rohan," presented him last spring and which weighed only four ounces, ~~sixty pounds five ounces~~. One of the po-

tatoes weighed 2 lbs. 10 oz. and the yield being four hundred to one. Beat the Doctor who can!—*Harford (Conn.) Courant.*

We are informed that George C. Harness, Esq., of Hardy county, raised the past season, from one acre of ground, one hundred and seventy-eight bushels of corn. Mr. H. cultivated the same with a view for a premium at the approaching Agricultural Exhibition of Hardy county, and the husking and measuring of the corn was attended to by a disinterested, intelligent, and highly respectable citizen of Moorfield. This is the most extraordinary yield, from one acre of ground, that we have ever heard of. Truly, may the South Branch Bottoms, be termed the "GARDEN SPOTS" of the Union.—*Romney [Va.] Intelligencer.*

Mr. George A. Moore, near Laurel, in Sussex county, Del. raised this season, 122 bushels of corn, from one and a half acres of ground. *Am. Farmer.*

Twin, or *Georgia balled cotton*.—A Dr. Cooper of Mary, who advertises the seed of this cotton for sale, makes the following statements in regard to it.

This year I planted a piece of ground, thirty by fifteen feet, on the twentieth of April, from which ground the turnups were dug, not as large as my cotton bolls, and raked three days before planting my cotton seed. I made eight rows of this, fifteen feet in width: one-sixth of the ground I put the seed in the drill six inches apart; one-third, eight inches, one-fourth, ten inches, and one sixth, twelve inches.—There should have been three hundred and sixty stalks upon this ground, but the drought of ten weeks, fowls and cut worms, left only one hundred and eighty-three stalks, which did not come up in three weeks, and do not average three feet high, had no ploughing, and only two very partial hoeings, the ground not having been wet three inches in ten weeks after been planted. It began to bloom on the seventh of June, and had several open bolls on the seventeenth of July, and from the sixteenth to the twentieth of August, I had picked out one half the whole product. A second drought, which still exists up to this date, more injuriously affecting mine, as a high, dry, stiff mulatto land, has destroyed full half my crop, as well as other cottons. In my two years raising it has not been affected in the least either by the rust or rot, though the rust has injured other cottons very much this year.

One hundred bolls of my cotton, after being sown, weighed 11 1/4 lbs., as certified to by Messrs. Davis Gray, Asbury Johnson, and Daniel Stone, merchants of this place. On the 18th of August, 12 bolls had been picked off a stalk 14 inches high. The products of my neighbor's crops, whose certificates are below, far exceed mine, though planted later, their lands being better, as their stalks are from 4 to 9 feet high. With what I have picked, and what are matured beyond failure, I shall make 24 lbs. upon the above ground, notwithstanding the bad stand, drought, and poorness of my land, which is in the ratio of 2,900 lbs. to the acre. After two years raising this article, it has not deteriorated, but has improved in my hands, as my product of bolls per stalk is greater. From the experiment I have made, I believe it capable of producing twice as much in quantity, and thrice as much in value, as our other upland Cottons, upon the same quality of land.

**PUMPKIN SUGAR.**

It is said that an important revolution is about occurring in France, in regard to the manufacture of sugar; and that a large capitalist intends to erect an extensive establishment for the manufacture of sugar from pumpkins, experiments having shown conclusively that it may be obtained from this vegetable in abundance, and of a superior quality. There is no doubt that sugar of good quality may be made from the pumpkin. We have never seen such an article; but the manufacture of pumpkin molasses was not an uncommon thing in New England, fifty years ago. When the price of this article took a rise, in consequence of the insurrection in Hispaniola, and the embarrassment resulting there from the trade between that island and the United States, many families, within our knowledge, supplied themselves with molasses from the products of their own grounds. Large quantities were made from sweet apples, from corn stalks and from pumpkins. That made from apples was considered the best. The pumpkin molasses had what was called the pumpkin taste, and the produce of the corn-stalk was always tinged with a sickish flavor, not altogether unlike the taste of liquorice.

**GREENSBOROUGH FURRIOT.**

STEAM PLOUGH FOR DIGGING CANALS AND MAKING EXCAVATIONS FOR RAILROADS. Among the new inventions in France, is one which is much talked of among speculators and manufacturers. It is a steam plough of very peculiar construction, with which it is said four miles of ground can be excavated with an engine of only eight horse power, to the depth of a foot and the breadth of two feet, in a single hour. The projector of the canal from Orleans to Nantes, which under ordinary circumstances would require at least five years for its construction, pretends that in one year the whole would be completed by the use of this machine; and that the saving in interest of capital would amount to many thousand pounds sterling. A friend of mine